

Bridgeport Evening Farmer

VOL. 53—NO. 83

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., FRIDAY, APRIL 6, 1917

PRICE TWO CENTS

UNITED STATES IS AT WAR WITH GERMANY; PRESIDENT ISSUES PROCLAMATION; U-BOATS OF FOE ARE REPORTED IN MEXICAN WATERS

HOSTILE U-BOATS IN MEXICO GULF, CAPITAL IS TOLD

Washington, April 6—Persistent but hitherto unconfirmed reports of German submarines waiting in the gulf of Mexico for the opening of hostilities with the United States were further supported today by advices to the government from Europe.

The full nature of the government's information is not disclosed, but it was received from one of the neutrals contiguous to Germany which has served as a clearing house for German information since the severance of diplomatic relations.

It was reported at the source of origin of the government's information that more than a score of German submarines were already in Mexican waters. Persons here who have been giving attention to the subject think the estimate of numbers is high, but feel no doubt that German submarines are somewhere on this side of the Atlantic, most probably in Mexican waters, and that some of them have been there since early in February.

91 GERMAN SHIPS NOW HELD BY U. S.

Washington, April 6—Reports to the Treasury department this afternoon from various ports of the United States and insular possessions where German ships are berthed indicated that departmental orders for the seizure of the ships had been carried out. The ships are in charge of United States marshals, and their crews removed.

Ninety-one ships have been taken, the department reported. A large number of these are in New York, including the Vaterland, the pride of Germany's merchant marine. The seizure of the ships was carried out without resistance on the part of the German crews.

BRAZILIAN SHIP SUNK BY U-BOAT, BREAK NEAR

Buenos Aires, April 6—Buenos Aires newspapers say that a grave situation has arisen between Brazil and Germany as a result of the sinking last night near the coast of France, of the Brazilian liner Parana. There is much anxiety as to the attitude that the Brazilian government will take.

WOULD GIVE PRESIDENT \$100,000,000 WAR FUND

Washington, April 6—Appropriation of \$100,000,000 for an emergency war fund to be used at the president's discretion, similar to the \$50,000,000 fund given to President McKinley for prosecution of the Spanish War, was attached today by the senate appropriation committee to the general deficiency bill.

JAPAN PLEASED TO CO-OPERATE WITH NEW ALLY

Tokyo, April 6—The Japanese press hails the entrance of America to the war as the death knell of Germany. The papers print articles praising the nobility of President Wilson's motives and congratulating him on the stand he has taken.

A high government official, asked whether the participation of the United States in the war would cause any change in the plans of Japan, replied: "Japan is employing all means to help to subdue the enemy and will be delighted to co-operate with America."

It is assumed that the absence of submarines from the Pacific will obviate the necessity of American naval activities in that ocean.

COAST GUARD IN NAVY.
Washington, April 6—The coast guard with all its extensive resources and equipment, automatically passed into the navy today as is provided by law in times of war.

German Plotters Sent to Prison

New York, April 6—Six Germans convicted by a federal jury here of rying food and munitions from this port for the Entente allies with incendiary bombs made in Hoboken, N. J., were sentenced today to serve prison terms varying from two years to six months and in addition to pay fines of from \$5,000 to \$500.

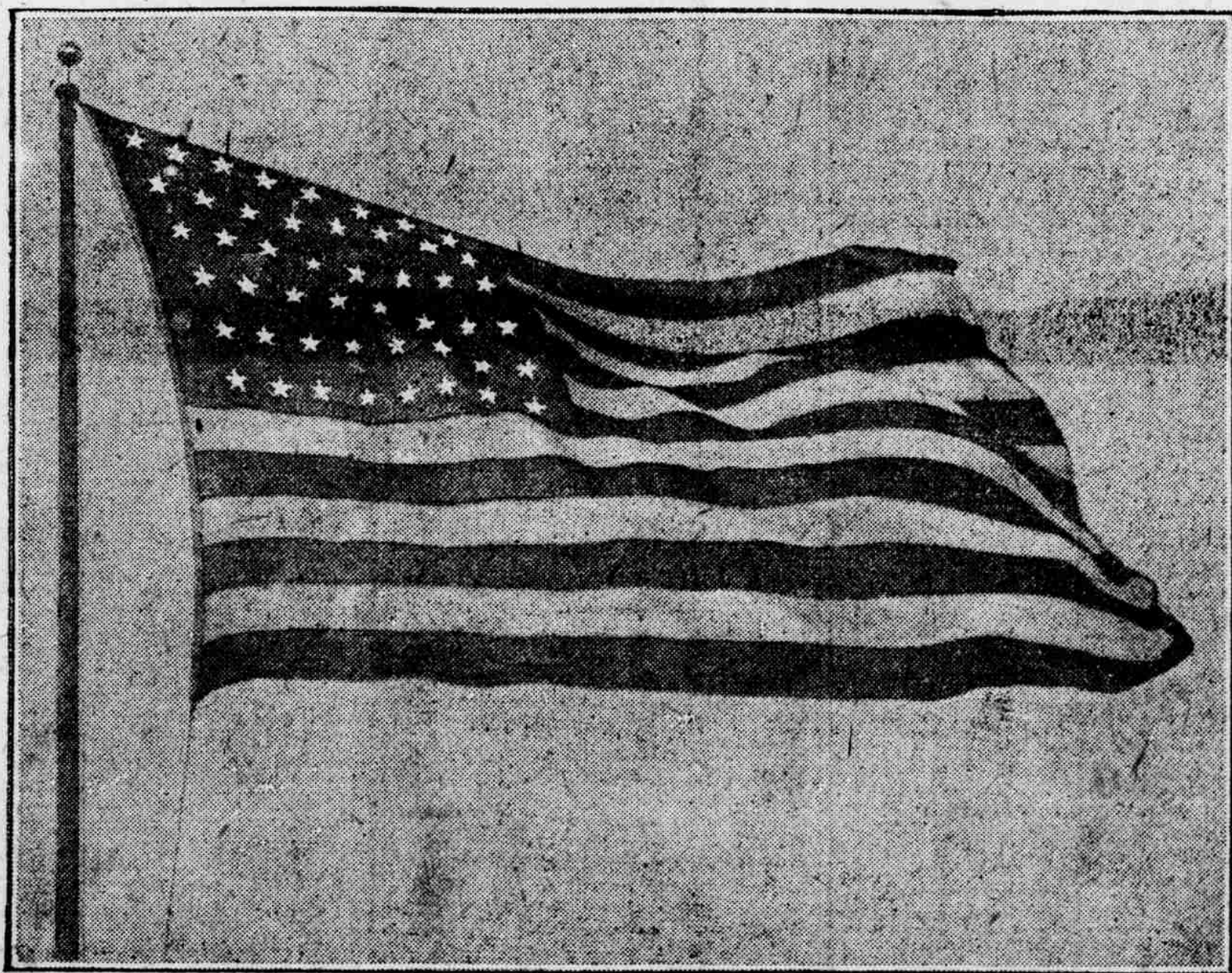
Capt. Alfred A. Fritzen, indicted a year ago in an alleged German conspiracy to blow up the Welland canal, pleaded guilty today in the federal court and was sentenced to 15 months in the penitentiary and to pay a fine of \$1.

HOME GUARD NUMBERS 4,520

Hartford, April 6—There are 4,520 men enlisted in the Connecticut Home Guard, according to the latest figures obtainable at state headquarters and officials of the state organization claimed that the 5,000 mark would be passed before the week ended.

TO TAKE UP ARMY BILL.
Washington, April 6—The senate military committee met today but adjourned after a short session until tomorrow, when it will take up the official draft of the new army bill.

ONE HUNDRED MILLION AMERICANS
UNITE UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES
TO PRESERVE THE HONOR OF THE NATION



WAR DECLARED, BRIDGEPORT YOUNG MEN FLOCK TO ARMORY AND MORE THAN FILL RANKS OF COMPANIES

REQUEST POLICE KEEP SUSPECTED ALIENS WATCHED

Supt. Redgate Asked to Locate All Explosive Stores and Munitions.

Superintendent John H. Redgate has received from Attorney General Gregory, of the U. S. Department of Justice office, a letter in which the latter asks the police official to restrain and suppress pernicious agitators, keep a close watch on all explosives in transport and ascertain the location of all explosives in the city.

Redgate will send a copy of the letter to all manufacturers, accompanied by a communication asking heads of industries to assist him.

Following is the letter received by the police superintendent:

Department of Justice, Washington.

Sir: While the department appreciates the fact that, in common with all loyal American citizens, you and your force are doubtless fully awake to the possibility of efforts being made in the event of war by agents of foreign governments and other persons unfriendly to the United States to injure its interests, it feels it to be its duty at this time to especially direct your attention to these matters in order that no possible precaution may be overlooked.

Among other things, the department believes that very careful investigation should be made to ascertain the location of any stores of arms or ammunition in the hands of or accessible to possible alien enemies or their sympathizers, to discover and keep watch upon meeting places of bodies of men in sympathy with enemies of this country that diligent efforts be made to see that careful guard is kept over all supplies of dynamite and other explosives, to keep careful check on the sale and transportation of explosives, to see that every possible precaution against incendiary fires is taken, to see that especially pernicious agitators are restrained in so far as the law will permit, etc., etc.

In connection with all of these matters, the department requests your continued co-operation with it or its local representatives and will appreciate your keeping it informed at all times of matters of this character which seem to be of importance.

Respectfully,

(Signed) T. W. GREGORY, Attorney General.

THE WEATHER

Cloudy tonight; Saturday fair.

Orders Hourly Expected by Second and Fourth Units of the Coast Artillery— Eleventh Awaiting Call.

United States Army Captain Musters Militiamen Into Federal Service—Recruiting is Stopped by Officers.

Orders are hourly expected as to the destination and time of departure of the Second and Fourth companies, Connecticut Coast Artillery, who have been called to the colors and are now mobilized at the State Armory in Main street. Orders are also hourly expected for the mobilization of the Eleventh company, band and medical corps of the Coast Artillery here, the Third Division Naval Reserves and the Field Ambulance company.

The Second and Fourth companies, Connecticut Coast Artillery, were formally mustered into the United States service at the State Armory in Main street at 9 o'clock today. Capt. F. L. Dengler, U. S. A., chief mustering officer, mustered the Second company and Capt. James E. Wilson, junior mustering officer, mustered the Fourth company. Recruiting for these companies has now stopped, but the recruiting is being continued for the Eleventh company, which now has 87 men and requires 22 for war strength. The Field Ambulance company also requires 19 men.

Lieut. Albert J. Merritt, executive officer of the National Naval Volunteers, was in New Haven last night conferring there with New Haven officers on plans for the speedy mobilization of the Naval Volunteers of the state who number about 350 officers and men.

Connecticut naval officers were informed yesterday that the navy department had completed early yesterday, preparations to flash telegraphic orders for the mobilization of 15,000 officers and men of the Naval Volunteers and the Naval Reserves immediately upon the signing of the war resolution by the President. It was said at the Armory today that the receipt of this order by Lieut. Merritt had taken him to New Haven.

Officers of the Naval Volunteers here say that the Atlantic fleet has been maintained on a war basis ever since the first sign of a possible break with Germany. The estimated 10,000 men in the Naval Volunteers and the 5,000 men in the various classes of the Naval Reserves will be employed immediately to fill the complement of reserve ships and auxiliary vessels that will go into commission. The first of the huge motor boat patrols for protection against submarines will also go into service manned by the Reserves.

Both the Second and Fourth companies have 109 each and a waiting list. The physical examination of

(Continued on Page 3.)

CROWD OBSERVES WILLEHAD CREW AT STATION HERE

Few Recognized German "Immigrants" in Stolid Passengers to New York

Stolidly viewing the bustling scene of activity on the Bridgeport station platform from the rear car windows of the Shore Line express, 37 officers and crew of the German steamship Willehad passed through this city at 1:20 this afternoon, under close guard of United States Immigration officials.

Gray haired officers sitting apart from the members of their crew peered through the rain fogged windows while other groups passed the time in smoking and talking about the new condition of affairs that has suddenly placed them in the official light of alien immigrants and possible enemies of this country, the guards asserted.

The closely guarded car was in charge of United States Immigration Inspector M. F. Brophy. Fifteen inspectors mingled with the passengers upon the train to prevent any unwarranted demonstration. As a protection to the car itself the compartment doors were kept closed and three inspectors were posted on each of the two platforms.

Despite the fact that great crowds had been leaving the city for New York today and that nearly one thousand persons crowded the platform in the hope of getting aboard the train none here seemed aware that the detained German sailors were aboard. As a special precaution against attracting undue attention all baggage of the interned sailors in the form of kit-bags was carried in the forward baggage car in charge of government inspectors.

Government officials in charge of the transfer declared that the 37 interned officers and men will be taken directly to Ellis island. Their status today is that of alien immigrants. They will be held awaiting advices from Washington ordering their disposition under international law.

The shore line express leaving New London at 11:15 and due in this city at 12:55, was 20 minutes late. Had the train been on time it is believed in railroad circles here that the Willehad crew would have had many sympathizers because of the fact that hundreds of Teutonic origin waited transportation to New York.

Frank Monahan, chief of police of Jersey City, has resigned to remove local obstacles to his candidacy for city commissioner at the election next month.

President Wilson Issues Formal Proclamation of War After Signing Act of Congress, Passed Early This Morning by the House—Navy Immediately Notifies All Ships and Stations of Opening of Hostilities—War Proclamation Commands All Citizens to Uphold Acts of the Government.

Washington, April 6—President Wilson today signed the resolution of congress declaring a state of war between the United States and Germany.

The war resolution was signed by the president at 1:14 o'clock.

The president also signed a proclamation formally declaring a state of war between the United States and Germany. In the proclamation he called upon American citizens to give support to all measures of the government.

Speaker Clark had signed the resolution soon after it passed the house in the early hours of this morning, and Vice President Marshall had signed it soon after the senate convened at noon. The engrossed copy was sent at once to the White House. It was waiting for the president when he returned from a short walk with Mrs. Wilson.

The navy department immediately wirelessly or telegraphed all its stations, navy yards and ships as follows:

"The president has signed an act of congress which declares that a state of war exists between the United States and Germany."

TEXT OF WAR PROCLAMATION

President Wilson's war proclamation follows:

Whereas, the congress of the United States in the exercise of the constitutional authority vested in them have resolved by joint resolution of the senate and house of representatives bearing date this day, "that a state of war between the United States and the Imperial German government, which has been thrust upon the United States, is hereby formally declared";

Whereas, it is provided by section 4067 of the revised statutes as follows:

"Whenever there is declared a war between the United States and any foreign nation or government or any invasion or predatory incursion is perpetrated, attempted or threatened against the territory of the United States by any foreign nation or government and the president makes public proclamation of the event, all native citizens, denizens or subjects of a hostile nation or government being male of the age of 14 years and upwards, who shall be within the United States and not actually naturalized, shall be liable to be apprehended, restrained, secured and removed as alien enemies."

"The president is authorized in any such event by his proclamation to direct, or to cause public acts, to direct the conduct to be observed on the part of the United States toward the aliens who become so liable; the manner and degree of the restraint to which they shall be subject and in what cases and on what security their residence shall be permitted and to provide for the removal of those who not being permitted to reside within the United States, refuse or neglect to depart therefrom; and to establish any such regulations which are found necessary in the premises and for the public safety."

Whereas, as by sections 4068, 4169 and 4070 of the revised statutes, provision is made relative to alien enemies:

Now therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim, to all whom it may concern, that a state of war exists between the United States and the Imperial German government, and I do specially direct all officers, civil or military, of the United States that they exercise vigilance and zeal in the discharge of the duties incident to such a state of war, and I do, moreover, earnestly appeal to all American citizens that they in loyal devotion to their country dedicated from its foundation to the principles of liberty and justice, uphold the laws of the land and give undivided and willing support to those measures which may be adopted by the constitutional authorities in prosecuting the war to a successful issue and in obtaining a secure and just peace;

And, acting under and by virtue of the authority vested in me by the constitution of the United States and the said sections of the revised statutes:

I do hereby further proclaim and direct that the conduct to be observed on the part of the United States toward all natives, citizens, denizens or subjects of Germany, being male of the age of 14 years and upwards, who shall be within the United States and not actually naturalized, who for the purpose of this proclamation and under such sections of the revised statutes are termed alien enemies, shall be as follows:

Alien enemies are enjoined to preserve the peace towards the United States and to refrain from crime against the public safety and from violating the laws of the United States and of the state and territories thereof, and to refrain from actual hostility or giving information, aid or

comfort to the enemies of the United States and to comply strictly with the regulations which are hereby or which may be from time to time promulgated by the president and so long as they shall conduct themselves in accordance with law they shall be undisturbed in the peaceful pursuit of their lives and occupations and be accorded the consideration due to all peaceful and law abiding persons, except so far as restrictions may be necessary for their own protection and for the safety of the United States and toward such alien enemies as conduct themselves in accord with law all citizens of the United States are enjoined to preserve the peace and to treat them with all such friendliness as may be compatible with loyalty and allegiance to the United States.

And all alien enemies who fall to conduct themselves as so enjoined in addition to all other penalties prescribed by law shall be liable to restraint or to give security or to remove and depart from the United States in the manner prescribed by Sections 4069 and 4070 of the revised statutes and as prescribed in the regulations duly promulgated by the President.

And pursuant to the authority vested in me, I hereby declare and establish the following regulations, which I find necessary in the premises and for the public safety:

(1) An alien enemy shall not have in his possession at any time or place any firearms, weapons or implement of war, or component parts thereof, ammunition, Maxim or other silencer, arms or explosives or material used in the manufacture of explosives;

(2) An alien enemy shall not have in his possession at any time or place or use or operate any aircraft or wireless apparatus or any form of signaling device or any form of cipher code or any paper, document or book, written or printed in cipher or in which may be invisible writing;

(3) All property found in the possession of an alien enemy in violation of the foregoing regulations shall be subject to seizure by the United States;

(4) An alien enemy shall not approach or be found within one-half of a mile of any federal or state fort, camp, arsenal, aircraft station, government or naval vessel, navy yard, factory or workshop for the manufacture of munitions of war or of

(5) An alien enemy shall not

(Continued on Page 12.)

WILSON SUPPORTS ARMY PLANS OF WAR DEPARTMENT

Washington, April 6—In a statement approving the army plan presented to Congress by the War Department, President Wilson today said that "the hope of the world is that when the European war is over, arrangements will have been made composing many of the questions which have hitherto seemed to require the arming of the nations."

British Town Bombed By Enemy Aeroplane.

London, April 6—Towns on the coast of Kent were again bombed last night by a German airship. There were no casualties, it was reported.